

IC 33-39

ARTICLE 39. PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS

IC 33-39-1

Chapter 1. Bond, Duty to Prosecute, Special Prosecutors, and Pretrial Diversion

IC 33-39-1-1

Senior prosecuting attorney defined; affidavit

Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "senior prosecuting attorney" means a person who:

- (1) was employed for at least eight (8) years as a prosecuting attorney or chief deputy prosecuting attorney; and
- (2) files an affidavit requesting designation as a senior prosecuting attorney in the circuit court in a county in which the person is willing to serve as a senior prosecuting attorney.

(b) An affidavit filed under subsection (a) must contain the following:

- (1) The name of the person filing the affidavit.
- (2) The person's attorney number issued by the supreme court.
- (3) The length of time the person served as a chief deputy prosecuting attorney or prosecuting attorney.
- (4) The name of any county in which the person served as a chief deputy prosecuting attorney or prosecuting attorney.

(c) The circuit court shall promptly forward each affidavit received under this section to the prosecuting attorneys council of Indiana.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-2

Prosecuting attorney; eligibility

Sec. 2. (a) This section does not apply to a deputy prosecuting attorney appointed by a prosecuting attorney or a special prosecutor appointed by a court.

(b) To be eligible to hold office as a prosecuting attorney, a person must be a resident of the judicial circuit that the person serves.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-3

Bond of prosecuting attorney

Sec. 3. A person elected to the office of prosecuting attorney, before entering upon the duties of the office, shall execute a bond in the manner prescribed by IC 5-4-1.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-4

Duties on receiving information of felony or misdemeanor

Sec. 4. (a) When a prosecuting attorney receives information of the commission of a felony or misdemeanor, the prosecuting attorney

shall cause process to issue from a court (except the circuit court) having jurisdiction to issue the process to the proper officer, directing the officer to subpoena the persons named in the process who are likely to have information concerning the commission of the felony or misdemeanor. The prosecuting attorney shall examine a person subpoenaed before the court that issued the process concerning the offense.

(b) If the facts elicited under subsection (a) are sufficient to establish a reasonable presumption of guilt against the party charged, the court shall:

- (1) cause the testimony that amounts to a charge of a felony or misdemeanor to be reduced to writing and subscribed and sworn to by the witness; and
- (2) issue process for the apprehension of the accused, as in other cases.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-5

Felony, misdemeanor, or infraction prosecutions; other duties required by law

Sec. 5. Except as provided in IC 12-15-23-6(d), the prosecuting attorneys, within their respective jurisdictions, shall:

- (1) conduct all prosecutions for felonies, misdemeanors, or infractions and all suits on forfeited recognizances;
- (2) superintend, on behalf of counties or any of the trust funds, all suits in which the the counties or trust funds may be interested or involved; and
- (3) perform all other duties required by law.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-6

Appointment of special prosecutors; grounds; consent to appointment; powers and duties; term and compensation

Sec. 6. (a) Special prosecutors may be appointed only under this section.

(b) A circuit or superior court judge:

- (1) shall appoint a special prosecutor if:
 - (A) any person other than the prosecuting attorney or the prosecuting attorney's deputy files a verified petition requesting the appointment of a special prosecutor; and
 - (B) the prosecuting attorney agrees that a special prosecutor is needed;
- (2) may appoint a special prosecutor if:
 - (A) a person files a verified petition requesting the appointment of a special prosecutor; and
 - (B) the court, after:
 - (i) notice is given to the prosecuting attorney; and
 - (ii) an evidentiary hearing is conducted at which the prosecuting attorney is given an opportunity to be heard; finds by clear and convincing evidence that the appointment

is necessary to avoid an actual conflict of interest or there is probable cause to believe that the prosecutor has committed a crime;

(3) may appoint a special prosecutor if:

(A) the prosecuting attorney files a petition requesting the court to appoint a special prosecutor; and

(B) the court finds that the appointment is necessary to avoid the appearance of impropriety; and

(4) may appoint a special prosecutor if:

(A) an elected public official, who is a defendant in a criminal proceeding, files a verified petition requesting a special prosecutor within ten (10) days after the date of the initial hearing; and

(B) the court finds that the appointment of a special prosecutor is in the best interests of justice.

(c) Each person appointed to serve as a special prosecutor:

(1) must consent to the appointment; and

(2) must be:

(A) the prosecuting attorney or a deputy prosecuting attorney in a county other than the county in which the person is to serve as special prosecutor; or

(B) except as provided in subsection (d), a senior prosecuting attorney.

(d) A senior prosecuting attorney may be appointed in the county in which the senior prosecuting attorney previously served if the court finds that an appointment under this subsection would not create the appearance of impropriety.

(e) A person appointed to serve as a special prosecutor has the same powers as the prosecuting attorney of the county. However, the appointing judge shall limit scope of the special prosecutor's duties to include only the investigation or prosecution of a particular case or particular grand jury investigation.

(f) The court shall establish the length of the special prosecutor's term. If the target of an investigation by the special prosecutor is a public servant (as defined in IC 35-41-1-24), the court shall order the special prosecutor to file a report of the investigation with the court at the conclusion of the investigation. The report is a public record.

(g) If the special prosecutor is not regularly employed as a full-time prosecuting attorney or full-time deputy prosecuting attorney, the compensation for the special prosecutor's services:

(1) shall be paid to the special prosecutor from the unappropriated funds of the appointing county; and

(2) may not exceed:

(A) a per diem equal to the regular salary of a full-time prosecuting attorney of the appointing circuit; and

(B) travel expenses and reasonable accommodation expenses actually incurred.

(h) If the special prosecutor is regularly employed as a full-time prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney, the compensation for the special prosecutor's services:

(1) shall be paid out of the appointing county's unappropriated funds to the treasurer of the county in which the special prosecutor regularly serves; and

(2) must include a per diem equal to the regular salary of a full-time prosecuting attorney of the appointing circuit, travel expenses, and reasonable accommodation expenses actually incurred.

(i) The combination of:

(1) the compensation paid to a senior prosecuting attorney under this chapter; and

(2) retirement benefits that the person appointed as a senior prosecuting attorney is receiving or entitled to receive;

may not exceed the minimum compensation to which a full-time prosecuting attorney is entitled under IC 33-39-6-5.

(j) A senior prosecuting attorney appointed under this chapter may not be compensated as senior prosecuting attorney for more than one hundred (100) calendar days in total during a calendar year.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-7

Senior prosecuting attorney appointment; minimum period of service; disciplinary sanctions

Sec. 7. A person may not be appointed a senior prosecuting attorney under section 6 of this chapter if the person:

(1) is not available for the minimum period of commitment for service as a special prosecutor; or

(2) has had a disciplinary sanction imposed by the Indiana supreme court disciplinary commission or a similar body in another state that restricts the person's ability to practice law.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-8

Withholding of prosecution; applicability grounds; conditions; notification

Sec. 8. (a) After June 30, 2005, this section does not apply to a person who:

(1) holds a commercial driver's license; and

(2) has been charged with an offense involving the operation of a motor vehicle in accordance with the federal Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (MCSIA) (Public Law 106-159.113 Stat. 1748).

(b) A prosecuting attorney may withhold prosecution against an accused person if:

(1) the person is charged with a misdemeanor;

(2) the person agrees to conditions of a pretrial diversion program offered by the prosecuting attorney; and

(3) the terms of the agreement are recorded in an instrument signed by the person and the prosecuting attorney and filed in the court in which the charge is pending.

(c) An agreement under subsection (b) may include conditions

that the person:

- (1) pay to the clerk of the court an initial user's fee and monthly user's fees in the amounts specified in IC 33-37-4-1;
- (2) work faithfully at a suitable employment or faithfully pursue a course of study or vocational training that will equip the person for suitable employment;
- (3) undergo available medical treatment or counseling and remain in a specified facility required for that purpose;
- (4) support the person's dependents and meet other family responsibilities;
- (5) make restitution or reparation to the victim of the crime for the damage or injury that was sustained;
- (6) refrain from harassing, intimidating, threatening, or having any direct or indirect contact with the victim or a witness;
- (7) report to the prosecuting attorney at reasonable times;
- (8) answer all reasonable inquiries by the prosecuting attorney and promptly notify the prosecuting attorney of any change in address or employment; and
- (9) participate in dispute resolution either under IC 34-57-3 or a program established by the prosecuting attorney.

(d) An agreement under subsection (b)(2) may include other provisions reasonably related to the defendant's rehabilitation, if approved by the court.

(e) The prosecuting attorney shall notify the victim when prosecution is withheld under this section.

(f) All money collected by the clerk as user's fees under this section shall be deposited in the appropriate user fee fund under IC 33-37-8.

(g) If a court withholds prosecution under this section and the terms of the agreement contain conditions described in subsection (c)(6):

- (1) the clerk of the court shall comply with IC 5-2-9; and
- (2) the prosecuting attorney shall file a confidential form prescribed or approved by the division of state court administration with the clerk.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.

IC 33-39-1-9

Criminal charges against persons working with children; notification of employers

Sec. 9. A prosecuting attorney who charges a person with committing any of the following shall inform the person's employer of the charge, unless the prosecuting attorney determines that the person charged does not work with children:

- (1) Rape (IC 35-42-4-1), if the victim is less than eighteen (18) years of age.
- (2) Criminal deviate conduct (IC 35-42-4-2), if the victim is less than eighteen (18) years of age.
- (3) Child molesting (IC 35-42-4-3).
- (4) Child exploitation (IC 35-42-4-4(b)).

(5) Vicarious sexual gratification (IC 35-42-4-5).

(6) Child solicitation (IC 35-42-4-6).

(7) Child seduction (IC 35-42-4-7).

(8) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3), if the victim is less than eighteen (18) years of age.

As added by P.L.98-2004, SEC.18.